

**PUBLIC HEALTH COUNCIL
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE SPECIAL SESSION
MINUTES**

April 22, 2005, 9:00 – 10:00 a.m.
1 W. Wilson St., Room 372

STATE OF WISCONSIN

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF APRIL 22, 2005

Committee Members in Attendance by Teleconference: Ayaz Samadani (Chair); Sandy Anderson (Vice-Chair); Bevan Baker; Gary Gilmore; Stephan Hargarten; Julie Willems Van Dijk; Jeanan Yasiri

Absent Committee Members: John Bartkowski (Vice-Chair)

Other Council Members in Attendance: Catherine Frey

Bureau of Health Information and Policy Staff: Susan Wood, Director; Stacia Jankowski

Call to Order

Dr. Ayaz Samadani called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

Discussion of Resolution

Prior to discussing the draft resolution, Dr. Ayaz Samadani asked that anyone with a conflict of interest abstain from voting.

A number of clarifications were made to the first four “Whereas” statements within the resolution. The following suggestions were made:

- Include tobacco-related disease in the second statement.
- Reword the third statement to read “Whereas, 15 percent of Wisconsin women smoke during pregnancy representing a ranking of 34th in the nation.” Bevan Baker asked if the rank is necessary in this statement. Dr. Gilmore said that the ranking has meaning for individuals from various backgrounds, so he recommends retaining it.
- Combine the fourth and fifth statements to read “Whereas, Wisconsin currently spends \$10 million for tobacco control while the CDC has estimated the optimal annual level of funding for such a comprehensive tobacco control program in Wisconsin should be \$30 million.”

The Committee unanimously decided on the following statement:

1. Significantly increase the price of tobacco products in order to reduce use, especially among children and youth, as would occur with at least a \$1.00 increase in the tobacco tax;
2. Direct revenue generated by such a price increase to support a comprehensive tobacco control program and to fund the costs of caring for persons with tobacco-related disease, especially in the Medicaid program.
3. Accelerate enactment and enforcement of local anti-tobacco ordinances.
4. Enact non-preemptive statewide laws to promote Wisconsin as a smoke-free state.

Resolution Summary

The following language was unanimously approved by the Committee with no opposition or abstentions:

1. Significantly increase the price of tobacco products to reduce use, especially among children and youth, as would occur with at least a \$1.00 increase in the tobacco tax;
2. Direct revenue generated by such a price increase to support a comprehensive tobacco control program and to fund the costs of caring for persons with tobacco-related disease, including in the Medicaid

program.

3. Accelerate enactment and enforcement of strong local anti-tobacco ordinances.
4. Enact non-preemptive statewide laws to promote Wisconsin as a smoke free state.

Schedule for Council Vote

The resolution will be sent to the full Council. Dr. Gilmore asked that within the text of the message that accompanies it, Council members be encouraged to examine the resolution in general terms to ensure it is in the spirit of the Council's recommendations. He asked that a cover letter be sent along with the resolution to detail the process that the Executive Committee used to reach this language. This included the face-to-face deliberation, discussion through e-mail, and dialogue via teleconference that resulted in the final proposed language. He suggested that this process be a prototype for the kind of deliberation the Council may be doing in the future. The Committee agreed to this course of action.

Next steps for the resolution include sending it out to the full Council, scheduling a teleconference for a vote, and requesting any members that cannot attend the meeting to vote by e-mail.

The Committee agreed to meet in teleconference from 11:00 to 11:30 a.m. on Friday, April 29, 2005.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Executive Committee is scheduled for May 27, 2005, 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. in room 372, 1 West Wilson Street, Madison.

Adjournment

Dr. Samadani adjourned the meeting at 10:05 a.m.